SUBJECT NO. 109.

Abolition of Sayer duty.

Messrs. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., Advocate, Shimoga Municipality; C. Subba Rao, B.A., B.L., Advocate, Nagar Sabha; Sahukar Nagappa, Manjaiya Uduparu, Ramappa, N. Narasimha Iyengar, and Y. Subba Rao, Sagar Taluk; M. Srinivasaiya, Bannur Municipality; Suryanaranappa of Arkalgud Taluk; Venkatarangaiya and Shroff Dharmappa of Hassan Municipality; Ananta Kesavachar, Belur Taluk; and Davud Khan, Tumkur Taluk; Kudlur Venkatasamaiya of Chamrajnagar Taluk; Kigga Channakesava Rao, Ardikoppa; Manjappa and Hedese Devara Sastri of Koppa Taluk; and Javali Ganesha Rao, Member of District Board, Kadur.

Summary of discussion.—Sayer on areca may be abolished. This duty falls not on the consumer but on the grower. A large quantity of the Mysore areca finds its market in British India and the Mysore producer has to compete with the British Indian producer who pays no Sayer duty on his areca. Thus the Mysorean has to sell his areca at a price which is twelve annas less than the price secured for British Indian areca. An acre of bagayet contains from 350 to 400 fruit-bearing trees yielding on an average twenty-four maunds of areca a year. The cost of cultivation amounts to Rs. 30 a year. The cost of collecting the nuts and preparing them for market is Rs. 60. The Sayer duty on this is Rs. 18 plus Local Fund. The assessment is about Rs. 16, and the total thus comes to Rs. 124, which means Rs. 5-2-0 per maund. The price of areca per maund may be taken at Rs. 7 and thus the cultivator gets a net income of Rs. 1-14-0 a maund. It is to be noted that it takes about sixteen years for a garden to come to the stage of bearing fruit and that not only the gardener but also his family people work in the garden.

Reply of Government.—There is nothing new in the representation. The matter is receiving consideration.

SUBJECT NO. 110.

Levy of additional assessment in place of Sayer duty.

Mr. Singarachar of Kunigal Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—If the levy of Sayer duty of twelve annas per maund of arecanut cannot be done away with, it is suggested that an additional assessment on land calculated on an average of ten years' Sayer revenue may be levied.

Reply of Government.—*Vide* Subject No. 109.

SUBJECT NO. 111.

Extension of khists in the case of arecanut gardens.

Mr. Kigga Channakesava Rao of Koppa Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The subject of extending khists of kandayam on arecanut gardens, just as in the case of coffee lands, was brought before the Assembly last year and Government recognizing the truth of the representation said that the matter would be enquired into. It is therefore requested that early orders may be passed on the subject and relief given to the Supari growers.

Reply of Government.—This matter was brought forward last year.

The Report of the Revenue Commissioner is due and he will be asked to expedite.

SUBJECT NO. 112.

Revival of Sayer koil chits.

Mr. Hutcheere Gowda, Gubbi Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In Subject No. 210 of last year the revival of the system of issuing koil chits by patels in preference to the system of estimating the produce by panchayatdars was prayed for. Early orders are requested on the subject.

Reply of Government.—No change is called for.